



ARUBA TODAY

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The rights of nature to be added to the Constitution



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Aruba's English news leader and ultimate guide to paradise

Despite cracks in Republican gun-rights wall, differences between states widen

By JEFF AMY
Associated Press

There have been a few cracks in the predictable pattern of Republican-controlled states loosening gun laws while Democratic states tighten them. But it's far too soon to say the GOP is changing direction even amid a record-setting pace for mass killings in the United States. Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee, a Republican, is sticking by his plan to call a special legislative session on gun control. Lee had asked lawmakers to pass a bill allowing judges to take away guns from people who the judge thinks pose an imminent threat to themselves or others. Lee shies away from calling his plan a red flag law, which he calls a "toxic political label."



Monday, May 1, 2023, in Pontiac, Mich. Ruby shot and killed her boyfriend and brother before taking her own life hours later on May 8, 2022. Kobyluk had spent the weeks prior calling police asking them to remove her daughter's firearm. "They said we can't take any guns away from her because we cannot step on her second amendment right," Kobyluk told The Associated Press. Michigan is poised to become the 20th state in the nation to pass red flag laws. s

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Associated Press



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House Republicans pass new asylum restrictions as Title 42 ends

By **STEPHEN GROVES**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) —

House Republicans passed a sweeping bill Thursday to build more U.S.-Mexico border wall and impose new restrictions on asylum seekers, creating a hard-line counter to President Joe Biden's policies just as migrants are amassing along the border with the end of coronavirus pandemic restrictions.

The bill has virtually no chance of becoming law. Democrats, who have a narrow hold on the Senate, have decried the aggressive measures in the bill as "cruel" and "anti-immigrant," and Biden has already promised he would veto it.

But the House GOP pointedly voted on the bill the same day as the expiration of Title 42, a public health emergency rule that allowed border authorities to quickly return many migrants who crossed the border illegally. Biden has conceded that the southern border will be "chaotic for a while" as migrants



A U.S. Border Patrol agent instructs a group of undocumented immigrants where to line up near a U.S. Border Patrol checkpoint Thursday, May 11, 2023 in Yuma, Ariz.

Associated Press

weigh whether to cross and U.S. officials use a new set of policies that aim to clamp down on illegal immigration while offering more legal pathways.

Republicans have sought to slam Biden for the increase in illegal immigration during his tenure. Passing the bill would ensure House GOP lawmakers can say they did their part to deliver on a campaign promise to secure the border.

House Speaker Kevin McCarthy called the package "the strongest border security bill this country has ever seen," saying in a speech on the House floor that "meanwhile, we are seeing a very different record from President Biden."

It took months, however, for Republicans to push the bill through the House amid sometimes public feuds between GOP lawmakers over the legislation. Even as

the legislation neared final form Wednesday, it had to be amended to appease concerns from the House Freedom Caucus and other lawmakers.

U.S. and international law give migrants the right to seek asylum from political, religious or racial persecution, but conservatives say many people take advantage of the current system to live and work in the U.S. while they wait for their asylum claim to be processed in court.

The package would return to many of the same policies pursued by former President Donald Trump, such as building walls along the border. It would also restrict asylum by requiring migrants to cross legally, pay a \$50 fee and meet more stringent requirements to show in initial interviews that they have a credible fear of persecution in their home country. "This extreme MAGA Republican piece of legislation will throw out children who are fleeing, in many cases, extreme violence and persecution," Rep. Hakeem Jeffries, the top House Democrat, said at a Thursday news conference. "It will build a medieval border wall that is a 14th-century solution to a 21st-century problem."

The bill would also scrap a program that has allowed U.S. officials to accept or quickly turn away some migrants from Venezuela, Haiti and Nicaragua. The

program is a cornerstone of Biden's immigration efforts, allowing migrants from those countries to apply to come to the U.S. for two years legally and work. The unwieldy nature of immigration legislation has befuddled Congress for decades, but there is a growing conversation in the Senate on the issue.

A small group of House and Senate lawmakers hopes the House bill could give momentum for a separate package in the works that would incorporate aggressive border enforcement with expanding legal immigration through work visas, as well as potentially a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants who came to the U.S. as children.

"The bill that we're getting, I think, is a good starting point," said Sen. Thom Tillis, a North Carolina Republican. "It, by itself, would not get 60 votes to get out of here."

Any final bill would need bipartisan support to pass the Senate and agreement from House Republicans on significant changes.

Sen. Dick Durbin, the No. 2 Senate Democrat, is introducing legislation that would assist border officials and speed up the asylum application process. And Tillis joined with Sen. Kyrsten Sinema, an Arizona independent who accepts committee assignments from Democrats, to push a bill that would resurrect the government's power to quickly expel migrants, without processing their asylum claims, for another two years.

"It's clear that the Biden administration, while it had two years to prepare for the end of Title 42, failed to do so," Sinema told reporters.

"And in the last several weeks, I've had the unfortunate job of communicating on a daily basis, sometimes even hourly basis, with the sheriffs, the Border Patrol agents, mayors and even the governor of Arizona to figure out how we can prepare to deal with this crisis." □



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Despite cracks in Republican gun-rights wall, differences between states widen

Continued from Front

And two Republicans in a Texas legislative committee broke ranks to advance a bill that would raise the purchase age for semi-automatic rifles from 18 to 21.

"We cannot assume that gun safety is not possible in states led by Republicans," said Allison Anderman, who tracks state legislation for the Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence, which favors more restrictions.

Still, a quick Republican turnaround is unlikely after decades of making gun rights a party cornerstone. Top GOP lawmakers and Gov. Greg Abbott oppose the Texas bill, while Lee has faced resistance from Tennessee Republicans. As state legislatures meet in 2023, if anything, differences on gun laws between Republican-controlled and Democratic-controlled states keep widening.

Here's what's happening:

A FLURRY IN MICHIGAN

A Democratic takeover of both houses of the Michigan Legislature, combined with Gretchen Whitmer winning a second term as governor, has led to seven gun-related bills getting passed and signed, including bills expanding background checks to all



Abel Lopez, right, father of Xavier Lopez who was killed in the shootings in Uvalde, Texas, holds a banner honoring the victims after a Texas House committee voted to take up a bill to limit the age for purchasing AR-15 style weapons in the full House in Austin, Texas, Monday, May 8, 2023. Associated Press

sales and requiring secure storage of guns. Whitmer is expected to sign legislation later this month so that people who are an imminent danger to themselves or others could have their guns confiscated, based on a judge's decision. She told supporters last month when signing some bills to "buckle up, we're going to continue this work."

Democrats in Minnesota are also trying to push through a red flag law and

expanded background checks, attaching them to a budget bill on Wednesday.

GUN CONTROL FRUSTRATION

Unlike in Michigan and Minnesota, supporters of stricter gun laws in many Republican-controlled states are voicing frustration. Georgia Democrats, for example, filed 16 bills to tighten gun laws this year. The only bill that got a committee hearing was received with hostility by Republicans and

gun-rights supporters.

Democrats renewed their push following a shooting this month at an Atlanta doctor's office that killed one and wounded four others, with 71 Democratic House members signing a letter asking Republican Gov. Brian Kemp to call a special session. But Kemp and other Republicans are laying low. If anything, gun rights supporters expect a further loosening of laws in Georgia.

PERMITLESS CARRY

Among the states staying pro-gun are Florida and Nebraska, which have become the latest Republican-controlled states to let people carry a concealed handgun without a permit. Permits and usually a background had once been required to carry a concealed handgun in public in every state but Vermont. With the votes in Nebraska and Florida, 26 states have now repealed such requirements since 2011. Florida's law takes effect July 1. Nebraska's law takes effect Sept. 10. Of the remaining 23 states without broad permitless carry laws, only Louisiana, South Carolina and North Carolina seem ripe for expansion. While Republican lawmakers in North Carolina earlier overrode a veto by Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper to allow people to buy a handgun without getting a permit from a local sheriff, a top Republican has effectively quashed legislative efforts to let people carry a concealed handgun without another type of permit. The permitless carry effort also appears dead for this year in South Carolina, while outgoing Louisiana Gov. John Bel Edwards, a Democrat, has opposed a broad expansion in his state. □

IRS takes steps to protect identity of workers in effort to deter personal threats

By FATIMA HUSSEIN

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — In an effort to deter threats aimed at IRS employees, the agency said Thursday it will start limiting workers' personal identifying information on communications with taxpayers. The change begins next month.

The Treasury Department's inspector general for tax administration said in a report this week that it was "concerned that taxpayers and anti-government or anti-tax groups with malevolent intent may use the Internet or social media to

track down and identify IRS employees, their families, their homes, and personal information to threaten, intimidate, or locate them for physical violence."

The IRS said it will remove workers' first names from communications, leaving their last names and respective Mr., Ms., or a gender-neutral title. Phone numbers will still be included in communications.

The decision comes as the agency has received increased attention after the climate, health care and tax legislation signed into law by President Joe Biden

last year included \$80 billion funding for tax collection efforts.

Since then, misinformation has spread online, including by Republican lawmakers, that 87,000 armed agents authorized to use deadly force were going to crack down on taxpayers of all earnings levels.

In August, IRS leadership announced that it would conduct a comprehensive review of the safety at its 600 facilities nationwide, after increased threats to workers were tied to the conspiracy theories.

"For me this is personal. I'll continue to make every ef-



The exterior of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) building in Washington, on March 22, 2013. Associated Press

fort to dispel any lingering misperceptions about our work," then-Commissioner Chuck Rettig said in a letter to workers.

New IRS Commissioner Daniel Werfel said last month that no hiring boost

is foreseen for the criminal investigation unit, which represents 3% of the agency's workforce and employed roughly 2,077 special agents as of the 2022 budget year, according to the IRS' annual report. □

Man who choked NYC subway rider to death will face manslaughter charge

By **JAKE OFFENHARTZ** and **MICHAEL R. SISAK**

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Manhattan prosecutors said Thursday that they will bring criminal charges against a man who used a fatal chokehold on an unruly passenger aboard a New York City subway train, a death that stirred outrage and debates about the response to mental illness in the nation's largest transit system.

Daniel Penny, a 24-year-old U.S. Marine Corps veteran, will be arrested and face a charge of second degree manslaughter, which could carry a jail term of up to 15 years.

"We cannot provide any additional information until he has been arraigned in Manhattan Criminal Court, which we expect to take place tomorrow," the Manhattan district attorney's office said in a statement.

The charges come nearly two weeks after Penny pinned fellow subway rider Jordan Neely, 30, to the floor of a subway car and put him in a chokehold that lasted for several minutes. According to a freelance journalist who witnessed



A group of several hundred people protest the death of Jordan Neely, Friday, May 5, 2023, at Washington Square Park in New York.

the struggle, Neely, who is Black, had been screaming and begging for money aboard the train prior to the takedown, but had not physically attacked anyone.

Attorneys for Penny, who is white, did not immediately respond to a request for comment. They previously said their client, along with two other riders who

helped restrain Neely, had acted in self-defense.

"Daniel never intended to harm Mr. Neely and could not have foreseen his untimely death," they said in a statement.

A former subway performer known for his spot-on Michael Jackson impression, Neely struggled in recent years with homelessness and worsening mental ill-

ness, friends said. He had been arrested several times, and had recently pleaded guilty to assaulting a 67-year-old woman in 2021 as she left a subway station. After pleading guilty, he missed a court date, leading to a warrant for his arrest that was still active at the time of his death.

His death has divided some

in New York and beyond, triggering intense debates and protests. Left-leaning advocates described the killing as an act of racist vigilantism, invoking comparisons to the infamous subway shooting carried out by Bernhard Goetz against four teenagers in 1984.

Others, including Mayor Eric Adams, have urged caution, calling on New Yorkers to wait for the full facts and investigations. They note that much is still not known about what precipitated the chokehold.

As the investigation has continued, Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg has faced pressure to make an arrest. Penny was questioned by police in the hours after Neely died, but released without charges.

A second-degree manslaughter charge in New York will require the jury to find that a person has engaged in reckless conduct that creates an unjustifiable risk of death, and then consciously disregards that risk. The law also requires that conduct to be a gross deviation from how a reasonable person would act in a similar situation. □

Associated Press



The children of Lt. Gen. Hal and Julia Moore join the command team at what's now Fort Moore during the unveiling the new sign, Thursday morning, May 11, 2023, at Doughboy Stadium in Fort Moore, Ga.

Associated Press

FORT MOORE, Ga. (AP) — The Army's training hub in Georgia was renamed Fort Moore during a ceremony Thursday, replacing the name of a Confederate officer that had adorned the base for more than a century with that of a decorated Vietnam War commander and his wife.

The name change for the post formerly known as Fort Benning had been in the making for more than a year, since an independent commission recommended in May 2022 renaming nine of its bases commemorating Confederate officers.

Soldiers and dignitaries at-

Army officially designates Fort Moore, dropping Confederate name Benning

tended a ceremony Thursday unveiling the new sign that will stand outside the base headquarters. The post commander, Maj. Gen. Curtis Buzzard, welcomed attendees for the first time to Fort Moore, named in honor of the late Lt. Gen. Hal Moore and his wife, Julia Moore.

Located just outside Columbus, the Georgia base trains soldiers to fight in the infantry, to serve in tank crews and is home to the elite Army Ranger School. Roughly 70,000 soldiers and civilian workers are stationed there.

The name Fort Moore marks the first time the Army has named a base in honor of

a married couple.

Hal Moore served in Vietnam as commander of a cavalry battalion based at Fort Benning and was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross. Julia Moore successfully lobbied the Pentagon to adopt a policy that military families would be notified of war casualties in person rather than by telegram.

"Together Hal and Julie Moore embody the very best of our military and our nation," Buzzard told the ceremony crowd. "And the renaming of this installation as Fort Moore is a fitting tribute to their lifelong dedication to the Army and its soldiers and their families." □

Founded in 1918 as Camp Benning, the Georgia base had long been named for Henry L. Benning, a justice on the Georgia Supreme Court who vocally supported secession after Abraham Lincoln won the presidency in 1860. Benning joined the Confederate Army during the Civil War and rose to the rank of brigadier general.

The name changes are part of a broader effort by the U.S. military to confront racial injustice. The Pentagon in January ordered that the names of Confederate officers and soldiers be stripped from bases, ships, streets and other places by the end of the year. □

Dutch suspect in Natalee Holloway disappearance faces extradition from Peru to US on fraud charges

By REGINA GARCIA CANO
and FRANKLIN BRICENO

Associated Press

LIMA, Peru (AP) — Peru's government will allow the extradition to the United States of the prime suspect in the unsolved 2005 disappearance of American student Natalee Holloway on the Dutch Caribbean Island of Aruba, bringing her family hope there will be justice in the case.

Dutch citizen Joran van der Sloot will be sent to the U.S., Peru announced Wednesday, to face trial on extortion and wire fraud charges, stemming from an accusation that he tried to extort the Holloway family after their daughter's disappearance.

Holloway, who lived in suburban Birmingham, Alabama, was 18 when she was last seen during a trip with classmates to Aruba. She vanished after a night with friends at a nightclub, leaving a mystery that sparked years of news coverage and countless true-crime podcasts. She was last seen leaving a bar with van der Sloot, then 18 years old.

Van der Sloot was identified as a suspect and detained,



Joran van der Sloot sits in the courtroom before his sentencing at San Pedro prison in Lima, Peru, Jan. 13, 2012.

along with two Surinamese brothers, weeks later. Holloway's body was never found, and no charges were filed in the case.

A judge later declared Holloway dead.

Years later, van der Sloot was arrested in Peru for the 2010 murder of 21-year-old Stephany Flores, who was killed five years to the day after Holloway's disappearance. Prosecutors accused van der Sloot of killing

Flores, a business student from a prominent family, to rob her after learning she had won money at the casino where the two met. They said he killed her with "ferocity" and "cruelty," beating then strangling her in his hotel room. He pleaded guilty in 2012, and is serving 28 years in prison for the murder.

But his extradition to the U.S. stems from an alleged attempt to profit from his

connection to the Holloway case. A grand jury in Alabama in 2010 indicted van der Sloot on wire fraud and extortion charges, accusing him of trying to extort hundreds of thousands of dollars from the Holloways.

Prosecutors in the U.S. allege van der Sloot accepted \$25,000 in cash from Holloway's family in exchange for a promise to lead them to her body in early 2010,

just before he went to Peru. An FBI agent wrote in an affidavit that van der Sloot reached out to Holloway's mother and wanted to be paid \$25,000 to disclose the location and then another \$225,000 when the remains were recovered. During a recorded sting operation, van der Sloot pointed to a house where he said Holloway was buried but in later emails admitted to lying about the location, the agent said.

Peru's Minister of Justice Daniel Maurate said in a statement Wednesday the government decided to "accept the request" from U.S. authorities "for the temporary transfer" of van der Sloot to be prosecuted on extortion and fraud charges. In Peru, all extraditions must be approved by the president.

The U.S. Department of Justice on Thursday declined to comment on the extradition.

A resolution published in the South American country's federal register states that U.S. diplomats on Jan. 10 presented the temporary extradition request to Peru's Ministry of Foreign Relations. □

Associated Press

Serbians hand over thousands of weapons after mass shootings

BELGRADE, Serbia (AP) — Serbian citizens have handed over nearly 6,000 unregistered weapons in the first three days of a month-long amnesty period that is part of an anti-gun crackdown following two mass shootings last week, police said Thursday.

Police also have received nearly 300,000 rounds of ammunition and about 470 explosive devices during the same period, the Serbian Interior Ministry said on Instagram.

The effort to rid Serbia of excessive guns was launched after 17 people were killed in two mass shootings last week and 21 were wounded, many of them children. One of the shootings took

place in a school for the first time ever in Serbia.

Authorities have told citizens to give up unregistered weapons by June 8

or face prison sentences. Other anti-gun measures include a ban on new gun licenses, stricter controls on gun owners and shooting

ranges, and tougher punishment for the illegal possession of weapons.

The school shooter was a 13-year-old boy who used his father's gun to open fire on his fellow students at an elementary school in central Belgrade last Wednesday, police have said. A day later, a 20-year-old man opened fire with an automatic weapon in a rural area south of the capital city.

Serbia is estimated to be among the top countries in Europe when it comes to gun possession per capita, which are partly left over from the wars in the 1990s. On Wednesday, police arrested the father of the suspected village shooter for

illegal possession of weapons.

The two shootings have sparked calls for changes and more tolerance in Serbia's society. Thousands have marched in opposition-led protests in Belgrade and other towns, demanding resignations of populist government ministers as well as a ban on television stations that air violent content and host war criminals. More protests are planned on Friday.

Serbia's populist president, Aleksandar Vucic, has accused opposition parties of using the tragedy for political ends.

He has announced plans for an own rally in late May. □



People march during a protest against violence in Belgrade, Serbia, Monday, May 8, 2023.

Associated Press

Mpox no longer a global emergency, WHO says

By **MARIA CHENG**

AP Medical Writer

LONDON (AP) — The World Health Organization said Thursday that the global outbreak of mpox, which initially baffled experts when the smallpox-related disease spread to more than 100 countries last year, is no longer an international emergency, after a dramatic drop in cases in recent months.

Last July, WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus declared mpox, also known as monkeypox, to be an “extraordinary” situation that qualified as a global crisis. In doing so, he overruled WHO’s expert committee, which didn’t recommend the emergency designation.

Tedros said the novel way mpox was infecting people, via sexual contact in many countries that had never before identified cases, raised numerous concerns that warranted more attention; nearly all cases were in men who were gay, bisexual or had sex with other men. It was the biggest-ever outbreak of mpox.

He said at a media briefing on Thursday that his expert committee had concluded



A health professional shows doses of Monkeypox vaccines at the Edison municipal vaccination centre in Paris Wednesday July 27, 2022.

that the recent dramatic decline in cases, with about 90% fewer cases in the last three months, was no longer an acute concern.

“We now see steady progress in controlling the outbreak based on the lessons of HIV and working closely with the most affected communities,” Tedros said. “I’m pleased to declare that the mpox is no longer a global health emergency.” He added that the feared

backlash against the communities most affected by the outbreak “has largely not materialized.”

The announcement Thursday comes after WHO downgraded COVID-19 last week, when it said the worst part of the pandemic was over and that the coronavirus should be managed like other respiratory diseases.

Mpox has been established in parts of central and west

Africa for decades, where people are mainly infected by animals like wild rodents. But the disease wasn’t known to spark big outbreaks beyond the continent or to spread easily among people until last May, when dozens of epidemics emerged in Europe, North America and elsewhere.

Mpox most often causes symptoms including a rash, fever, headache, muscle

pain and swollen lymph nodes. The skin lesions can last up to a month and the disease is spread via close physical contact with an infected patient or their clothing or bedsheets. Most people don’t need medical treatment to recover.

Scientists ultimately concluded that the unprecedented outbreak was tied to sex among gay and bisexual men at raves in Spain and Belgium, marking a significant departure from the mpox’s typical pattern of spread in Africa, where outbreaks haven’t spilled across borders.

European health authorities said that 98% of mpox patients are men and of those, 96% are men who have sex with men.

Mpox vaccines in rich countries were quickly rolled out and reports of severe illness were relatively rare. Cases have since slowed to a trickle in Europe and North America. To date, WHO says there have been more than 87,000 cases and 140 deaths worldwide. Still, in the last week, WHO said cases spiked by 64% compared to the previous week, with most cases in the Americas and the Western Pacific. □

Associated Press

Norway takes over presidency of Arctic Council from Russia

By **JAN M. OLSEN**

Associated Press

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP) — Norway on Thursday took over the Arctic Council’s rotating chairmanship

from Russia amid questions about what role the eight-country intergovernmental body can play in protecting the polar region after the invasion of Ukraine

prompted Western countries to suspend cooperation with Moscow.

The Arctic Council, which doesn’t deal with security issues but makes binding agreements on environmental protection and gives a voice to the Indigenous peoples of the Arctic region, was one of the few settings where Western countries and Russia worked together closely.

But the United States, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden decided to pause their work with Russia in the council shortly after Moscow launched the full-scale war in February 2022. As a result, research involving Russia on issues ranging from climate change to

polar bears has been put on hold, and scientists have lost access to important facilities in the Russian Arctic. Nonetheless, Norway vowed to keep the council’s work moving forward as it assumed the rotating two-year chairmanship from Russia. “Norway will continue to focus on the core issues the Council deals with, including the impacts of climate change, sustainable development and efforts to enhance the well-being of people living in the region,” Norwegian Foreign Minister Anniken Huitfeldt said. “Together with the other member states, we will now explore how this can be achieved in practice.”

Experts say that’s going to

be complicated without cooperation with Russia, the biggest Arctic nation.

“It is a huge challenge for Norway. They have to isolate Russia and at the same time they have to make sure not to provoke Russia to dissolve the Council,” said Rasmus Gjedssø Bertelsen, of the Arctic University of Norway in Tromsø.

He worried that Indigenous peoples might “lose an important forum and a prominent platform,” adding that many of the groups are cross-border organizations and don’t follow national borders. Six organizations representing Arctic Indigenous peoples are permanent participants of the Arctic Council, which was established in 1996. □



Large icebergs float away as the sun rises near Kulusuk, Greenland, Aug. 16, 2019.

Associated Press

The Netherlands signs an accord with Aruba and Sint Maarten on cooperation in the field of renewable energy



(Oranjestad)—The Netherlands strengthens cooperation with Aruba and Sint Maarten in the field of renewable energy. The countries agreed to this yesterday, during the first Caribbean Climate and Energy Conference (CCEC), which is taking place on Aruba from the 10th to the 12th of May.

The CCEC features a broad group of organizations, islands and countries with islands from both the Caribbean and beyond. The Netherlands and Aruba aim to use the conference to promote closer cooperation on climate action between small islands worldwide. Examples of topics to be discussed include inclusive energy transition and financing of all these plans.

At the conference, the Netherlands signed a so-called Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with both Sint Maarten and Aruba. The collaboration focuses on various renewable energy technologies, such as wind and energy, green hydrogen, solar energy and energy storage. In the accord, agreements were made on the exchange of staff and scientific and technological knowledge and, for example, setting up joint working groups and research projects.

Rob Jetten, Minister for Climate and Energy: "Islands are already on the front line of climate change. If we do not act, the effects will become ever greater and possibly even irreversible. That is why the govern-

ment wants to ensure that islands such as Aruba and Sint Maarten do not stay behind in the transition. That is also climate justice for me."

Prime Minister of Aruba, Evelyn Wever-Croes: "Aruba is recovering from the Covid-19 pandemic, with a strong and resilient economy. Energy will become an important economic pillar. There are many opportunities for Aruba itself, but also within the Kingdom. The signed MoU is an important step in this directions, cause is we really want to implement changes, we should join efforts."

Prime Minister of Sint



Maarten, Silveria Jacobs: "If my previous discussions and lobbying have provided any insight, is that there is great importance for Sint Maarten to be part of the discussions where it pertains to green energy and

sustainable development for out island. With the signing of this MoU we are poised to make the great strides for the sustainability and long awaited energy transition Sint Maarten envisions." □



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The Tobacco Act came into force a year ago

ORANJESTAD - On May 2, 2022, the Tobacco Act came into force after Parliament unanimously approved it on October 26, 2021.

This law prohibits persons under 21 years from purchasing or using tobacco products and working in the immediate vicinity where they sell tobacco products. The Department of Public Health (DVG) is creating awareness in the community and commerce about the content of this law and will soon begin enforcing compliance.

Eight officials of the Goods Inspection and Hygiene Department of the DVG are trained as Special Investigation Officers (BOA) to enforce this law. They have the authority to enforce compliance with the tobacco law in the form of reporting and fines.

The National Ordinance Restricting Tobacco Products prohibits:

The sale of cigarettes and other tobacco products to persons under 21 years. The sale of single cigarettes. Cigarettes can only be sold in closed and sealed packs.

Smoking in public places, except in locations with designated smoking areas. Minors are not allowed to work in establishments where they sell tobacco products.

If you work in a marketplace, people under 21 years, are not allowed to work near separate areas where they sell tobacco products.

Giving away tobacco products.

Smoking in private transport when minors are present in the vehicle.

Smoking on public transport



To sell or give away tobacco products in:

Cultural, arts, medical, government, sports, and educational facilities.

Employers are responsible for protecting employees from cigarette and cigar smoke during working hours and on the job site.

Aruba may have a healthier community, but it requires responsibility and commitment from everyone to take care of themselves, eat healthy, and be active. Keep in mind that tobacco is hazardous to your health. □

The rights of nature to be added to the Constitution

ORANJESTAD - The Ministry of Transport, Nature, Integrity and Elderly Affairs, and the Department of Nature and Environment (DNM) worked on a draft law to add Nature's Rights to the Constitution.

They created the draft law in consultation with several local and international organizations and experts. After the first dialogue with Parliament and the Council of Ministers, they submitted the draft to the Legislation and Legal Affairs Department (DWJZ) on 21 April 2023.

After review of the draft,



they will check the quality and efficiency of the legislation and initiate the consultation process with stakeholders, who will have the opportunity to dia-

logue and provide feedback. Stakeholders include Parliament, environmental organizations, commerce, and lawyers. With the community's involvement, the

government creates a solid foundation for the law concept, which would be a significant achievement for the community.

The Advisory Council (RvA) is the government body that advises the government on proposed laws. The office of Minister Arends, the DNM, and the DWJZ will, if necessary, adjust the draft law based on suggestions from the stakeholders submitted to the Advisory Board.

The amended draft, including the advice of the RvA, will be sent to Parliament for review, consultation,

and reply by the minister in preparation for the public meeting on this Act.

The legislative process to include nature's rights in the Constitution ends in Parliament. At least two-thirds of the members should support it, as constitutional amendments require two-thirds of the vote.

Recognizing the rights of nature in our legal system is a fundamental step towards protecting our planet's ecological integrity preserving Aruba's wildlife, and ensuring a sustainable future for future generations. □



ORANJESTAD — You are back and we would like to portrait you! By inviting you to send us your favorite vacation picture while enjoying our Happy Island.

Complete the sentence: Aruba to me is Send your picture with that text (including your name and



where you are from) to: news@arubatoday.com and we will publish your vacation memory. Isn't that a special way to keep your best moments alive? Please do note: By submitting photos, text or any other materials, you give permission to The Aruba Today Newspaper, Caribbean Speed Printers

Aruba to me

and any of its affiliated companies to use said materials, as well as names, likeness, etc. for promotional purposes without compensation.

Last but not least: check out our website, Instagram and Facebook page! Thank you for supporting our free newspaper, we strive to make you a happy reader every day again.

For today we received a lovely message from Allison Braswell.

She wrote to us saying; "Good Morning Aruba

I write often when I visit Aruba, last couple of times I didn't write in. Aruba to me is full of sunshine, family and friends. This was my tenth trip I just returned from. As always Tamarijin hotel never disappoints.

We enjoyed a relaxing week in the blue waters and hot sun.

I personally wanna thank so many of them at the hotel, J.C who is a awesome bartender in the parp arrzi, julio, corneil, Jorge, ruby, naila, Bernadett, Juliette, Brenda, john, Francis who is absolutely the best and so accommodating and many more.

Also a huge thank you to Jeremy Tromp who had the best exotic bullie dogs on the island and always brings them out to visit with me. Thank you aruba for another great trip at the Tamarijin hotel."

Thank you for sending us this wonderful message sharing what Aruba means to you with us and our readers! □

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Aruba Tourism Authority honored loyal visitors at Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa

The Aruba Tourism Authority recently had the great pleasure to recognize Distinguished Visitors Aruba. This lovely couple was respectively honored with a certificate acknowledging their years of visits, loyalty, and love to the island of Aruba.

The honor certification is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation and to say "Ma-sha Danki" to guests whom have visited Aruba 10, 20, or 35 years or more consecutively.

The three honoring levels are as follows:

Distinguished Visitor (10>years consecutively visiting Aruba)

Goodwill Ambassador (20>years consecutively visiting Aruba)

Emerald Ambassador (35>years consecutively visiting Aruba)

The honorees were:

Distinguished Visitors of Aruba

Mr. Ed Dillon & Mrs. Lisa Aloisi from Brightwaters, United States.

Ms. Kimberley Richardson representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and staff members of the Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa bestowed the certificate to the honorees, presented them with memorable gifts, and also thanked them for choosing Aruba as their best-loved vacation destination and as their home-away-from-home.

On behalf of the Aruba Tourism Authority, we would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to Mr. Dillon & Mrs. Aloisi for their continued visits to the "One Happy Island".

Top reasons for returning to Aruba provided by Mr. Ed & Mrs. Lisa were:

- Aruba's warm consistent weather all year round
- Aruba's amazing people
- Aruba's nice sandy beaches
- Aruba's variety of restaurants to choose from
- Ease of travel – direct flight to Aruba



Beauty & THE BEACH

Aruba Today is delighted to share to its readers a new segment called "Beauty and the Beach", where we take a minute to honor our guests who have decided to spend their vacation on our beautiful and warm island.

In this edition, we'd like to give a shout out to **Margarika and Heather from Virginia**. This is their first time here and they love the weather and water. Aruba is always proud to host all families and guests. We at Aruba Today encourage any visitor of the island to send in their pictures and/or messages; who knows? You might get on the cover!

This segment is sponsored by Alhambra Casino and Shops.

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History of fishing in Aruba

ORANJESTAD — Fishing has been a family tradition for ages in Aruba. Our ancestors used to fish for a living. Even though nowadays you don't see them often we still have some passionate fishermen on the island that go out every day in search for fish to feed their families and serve our local market. One of these fishermen is Gregory Wernet.

The so-called Continental Bank between Aruba and the opposite coast reaches a depth of about 650 feet. The sea is very rich in fish here. Since the time of the indigenous native people fish and other sea creatures such as turtles, octopus squids, conch and many type of crustaceans have formed a means of subsistence for the native Aruban inhabitants. Especially along the west coast of the island where the fishing grounds are settlements of fishermen. Until the arrival of the oil -industry Aruban fishermen could supply Aruba's wants.

As a source of income, however, fishing did not amount too much. In the beginning of the 1900's approximately 160 people earn their living in this branch of this industry. Rancho, which stands for a shed, nowadays east Oranjestad, was the head quarter and remains the fishermen's settlement. Sa-



vaneta, Noord, Santa Cruz all had their fishermen's villages. At a rough estimate there were about a hundred small fishing boats during that time.

The Arubans were mainly engaged in coastal fishing, using rowing-boats or small sailing-boats, and lines or dragnets and canisters in shallow water. When fishing with deep-sea lines just over the bottom of the sea the boat is kept in place by means of a piece of rock serving as an anchor. The two most important species of fish by far caught in this manner are the pargo or red snappers and a variety of groupers like the mero, jeanpao and the wowo di boyo.

Cruising off the coast the Aruban fisherman patient-

ly waits for a fish willing to snap at the bait on the drag-line, in nets and traps. Veritable giants are sometimes caught. Barracudas weigh from 9 to 44 pounds and measure from 3 to almost 7 feet. The king-fish has a weight from 22 to 44 pounds; the moclat may tip the scales at 155, whilst garfish, having a length of nine feet, weigh over 132 pounds.

Most fish caught is used for their own consumption, to feed their families and some are being sold in the market to local restaurants.

Fisherman Gregory Wernet

Gregory Wernet is a well-known fisherman from Santa Cruz. His father taught him fishing when he was a small child. Gregory has two sons, Jordan and Jordanny, which he taught fishing too, when they were only 3 years old and he takes them fishing with him. Fishing has been a fam-

ily tradition for quite a long time and even his grandson Willvion of 7 years old is following his grandfather steps. This is the sixth generation of fishermen in their family.

They go deep sea fishing. There they catch red snapper, grouper and amberjack. They usually fish for 15 hours a day, but now due to the covid-19 measurements they go fishing from 5 in the morning until 8 o'clock at night or even sometimes from 8 at night till 5 in the morning. The day before they prepare all their fishing tools such as the Lines, lures, spears, and load their boat with fishing reels, batteries, fill the gasoline tank, lights and some food and beverages. For bait he uses sardines, squid and the small fish known in Aruba as piskechi. The have two boats they use for fishing. 'Virgen del Valle' which is parked at the pier by the Seaport and 'Padrot' which they have at home.

The fish they catch they take home to their families and they also sell it to their clients. Gregory is proud to be a fisherman. It is a honest and humble job but with it he is able to feed his family even during hard times. It is a very dangerous job and you have to spend many hours on the sea, waiting patiently and risking your life while fighting a big fish and big waves but the adrenaline it brings with it but also just sitting there listening to the sound of the waves and enjoying the marvelous view that nature has to offer is all worth it.

Source: Etnia Nativa



Ariana Lake: “You choose what affects you. You decide”

(Oranjestad)—Ariana Lake is a young lady of 16 that has been dancing since she was very young. She describes herself as someone who loves to read, dance and cook. In an interview with our reporter, Ariana shared stories about her childhood, her experiences as a dancer how these experiences in the dance world helped her grow in different aspects of her life.

Ariana says that she had a lot of happy memories; there were many things she enjoyed. One of these things was going out every day as a child, because there was also some activity to do.

She also shared that she loved growing up was the fact that she was very close to her family, because whenever there was a celebration of any sort, everyone would gather at her house and come play and eat.

Ariana is currently in her senior year of high school. After graduating, she will be following the program called Academic Foundation Year (AFY) at the University of Aruba, because she still is not sure which academic direction to take yet.

She explained that with AFY, she will have the opportunity to experience a bit of every career path and see which one she likes best to continue studying. She will also be taking this

opportunity as a chance to improve her Dutch for when she will eventually further her studies in The Netherlands.

“I’m a perfectionist and I want the right foundation by the time I leave for The Netherlands, so that I won’t have any struggles with the language. That’s my next step,” she expressed.

Ariana started dancing since she was six years old. Her first experience in dance was a workshop for ballet and Venezuelan folkloric dance. The next two years, she danced in the Venezuelan consulate. After that, she joined the dance group Kids & Youth in Action, where she has been a part of for eight years now.

She told our reporter that one of her motivations for starting dancing was to have fun and to meet new people. By the time she decided to join Kids & Youth in Action, she wanted to learn different types of dance.

Ariana has a fuller figure, and some people may say that her body does not fit the standards expected for a dancer. This affected Ariana for some time, because she felt very excluded from her peers in some aspects.

“Excluded in the sense that I couldn’t wear the same types of performance outfits. For example, if the other girls were to wear a mini skirt and sleeve-less shirts, I

would get a long skirt and a shirt with sleeves, because I was led to believe that I didn’t look good in the clothes that the others were wearing. I would sometimes also be excluded from performing at certain showcases and events, just because I didn’t have the desired body,” she remarked.

She added that this was something that was really hard for her to deal with and her self-confidence suffered severely because of it: “It’s not something I’d ever wish upon anyone else.”

On the hand, however, that experience motivated her to improve in other aspects. She shared that because she was feeling excluded, she needed to work harder so she can prove to people that she is just as capable, regardless of her size; that she can dance just as good and maybe even better than the other dancers.

“That was something that me stronger and better in my craft. Years later, I’m now one of few dancers who knows how to dance all genres, I know what it means to bring attitude to a performance, to get the crowd excited. I know what it means to train hard, because if I don’t get something the first try, I’ll practice at home until I do. That was something that made me realize that you choose what affects you. You decide,” she expressed.



For Ariana, dancing was a tool that helped her grow in other aspects of her life. Dancing made her more responsible and disciplined; she learned how to lead and how to set priorities.

In terms of leadership, she explained that she had the opportunity to teach choreographies to other younger dancers. Through this, she learned how to teach children, how to talk to them and how to set an example for them. She shares that this reflects in her studies. For example, whenever there was a group project, she was often chosen to lead her group mates. This was a quality she acquired thanks to dancing.

Ariana’s message for the youth of Aruba is this: “Whatever is for you, will come to you. Maybe you didn’t get everything you wanted, but that was because it wasn’t for you; there something better out there for you. You control what affects you. Maybe someone told you something mean or rude, but it’s up to you if you’re going to be sad of if you are just going to ignore those negative comments. You are the decider of what affects you and you are the one who will have to decide what you’re going to do with it. Let this be a motivation for you, to show yourself and other people that you are more than capable.” □



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 35 Sparkly crown
 - 1 Freeway exit
 - 5 May honorees
 - 9 Love affair
 - 11 Wed in haste
 - 13 Plateau's kin
 - 14 Meyers and Rogen
 - 15 Fire proof
 - 16 Walkers' straps
 - 18 Vacillates
 - 20 Geologic period
 - 21 Un-manned flier
 - 22 Deuce topper
 - 23 Unconscious
 - 24 Egg — yung
 - 25 Grass clump
 - 27 Gang territories
 - 29 Band blaster
 - 30 Dickens boy
 - 32 Grabbed with a toothpick
 - 34 Med. coverage group

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Yesterday's answer

- DOWN**
- 8 Bubble shape
 - 25 Critical asset
 - 1 Moroccan city
 - 10 Show
 - 26 Strike caller
 - 2 Tickled mercy
 - 12 School
 - 27 Bind
 - 3 Button material
 - 28 Smile coyly
 - 4 Deposit
 - 17 Before, in poems
 - 30 Market action
 - 5 Plateaus' kin
 - 19 Promote
 - 31 Truck part
 - 6 Bullfight cries
 - 22 Thatcher, for one
 - 33 Son of Hera
 - 7 Herb with an oregano-like scent
 - 24 Supplier of money
 - 37 Procured

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	40						41		

A X Y D L B A A X R
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

5-12

CRYPTOQUOTE

Q B K G E F B E W W U D R Y F I L

W C L G V B V U D O L H K V U B T R C

D M V L B B G F B P D D F I D D J

— I K Y Y H B V V L Q W D G

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: IF YOU THINK YOU ARE TOO SMALL TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE. YOU HAVEN'T SPENT THE NIGHT WITH A MOSQUITO. — AFRICAN PROVERB

Millennial Money: Should I join a class-action lawsuit?

By DALIA RAMIREZ
of NerdWallet

It might have happened to you a few times in past years: You received an email or mail notice inviting you to join a class-action lawsuit, or notifying you that you've been automatically included. But being part of such a lawsuit might be intimidating, especially if you need to opt in, and would mean surrendering the option to sue individually.

In most cases, there's little downside to joining these lawsuits, which combine many legal claims often thousands into one claim against a single defendant, reducing fees for each claimant and potentially earning a much larger payout.

And there have been many opportunities to do so. Following a series of large opioid settlements, 2022 had the most billion-dollar class-action settlements in U.S. history apart from the tobacco settlements decades ago, according to a report from the national law firm Duane Morris. The stakes are high for class-action lawsuits at this level, as they set standards for corporate responsibility in areas such as data privacy, employee discrimination, securities fraud and civil rights.

But in cases where you suffered significant harm, suing individually could secure a bigger payout.

WHY YOU SHOULD JOIN (OR NOT OPT OUT)

In many cases, class-action lawsuits offer such a minor payout to each victim that participation is a matter of principle, not reward. But even if you receive only



A stamp is shown on an envelope Friday, May 28, 2021, in Washington.

Associated Press

\$10 to \$20 as compensation, joining a collective lawsuit can help other customers or employees get justice, and may deter a company from harmful practices in the future.

If you're part of the "class" of a lawsuit that is, if you were affected by the certain event or purchase described you'll often be automatically included in the lawsuit. And for certain cases, such as those relating to wage violations or defective products, you may have to opt in.

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES DON'T ALWAYS GET A LARGER PAYOUT

If you feel strongly about the outcome of a class-action lawsuit, you can also participate as a class representative, sometimes called a lead plaintiff. In some cases, becoming a class representative could lead to a bigger payout but that isn't always the case.

Even though the class representative is the case's headline, "That person isn't necessarily going to get any kind of windfall," says Jennifer A. Riley, a partner

at Duane Morris and vice chair of the firm's workplace class-action group. She notes that some courts in some jurisdictions would be able to grant a service award to plaintiffs representing the case, which are often between \$2,500 and \$7,500, but other courts have found these awards inappropriate.

And it's difficult to discern upfront whether such a service award would be granted. Class-action lawsuits can also take anywhere from a few months to several years, which can be an excessive commitment for many. The Exxon Valdez oil spill, for example, took 17 years to reach a class-action settlement.

WHEN TO OPT OUT (OR NOT JOIN)

If you plan to make a case of your own, it makes sense to opt out of, or not participate in, a class-action lawsuit.

"If you have your own lawsuit, the value of your claim might be much, much higher as an individual than it would have been as a class member," says Gerald L. Maatman Jr., a partner at Duane Morris and the chair of the law firm's workplace class-action group. "You're trying to decide, 'If I opt out, am I going to do that much better than I'd do in a class action?' And in certain circumstances, an individual would do better. They'd get the money quicker, and they'd get more money." □

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24/7

New blood donation rules allow more gay men to give in U.S.

By **MATTHEW PERRONE**
AP Health Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Gay and bisexual men in monogamous relationships can give blood in the U.S. without abstaining from sex under updated federal health guidelines that focus on donors' behavior, not their sexual orientation. The Food and Drug Administration guidelines finalized Thursday ease decades-old restrictions designed to protect the blood supply from HIV. The agency announced plans for the change in January and said this week the new approach can now be implemented by blood banks.

The updated guidelines do away with a requirement that men who have sex with men abstain from sex for three months prior to giving blood.

Instead, all potential donors regardless of sexual orientation, sex or gender will be screened with a new questionnaire that evaluates their individual risks for HIV based on sexual behavior, recent partners and other factors. Potential donors who report having anal sex with new partners in the last three months will be barred from giving until a later date. The FDA said the new policy reflects the latest scientific evidence and is in line with rules in the U.K. and Canada.

It's the latest move by the FDA to broaden donor eligibility, with the potential to boost donations.

"The implementation of these recommendations will represent a significant milestone for the agency and the LGBTQ+ community," Dr. Peter Marks, director of the FDA's center for biological therapies, said in a statement.

Gay rights groups have long opposed blanket restrictions on who can give blood, saying they discriminate. Medical societies including the American Medical Association have also said such exclusions are unnecessary given advances in blood testing.



A person donates blood to the American Red Cross during a blood drive in Pottsville, Pa. on Thursday, Jan. 13, 2022.

Associated Press

Anyone who has ever tested positive for HIV will continue to be ineligible to donate blood. Those taking pills to prevent HIV through sexual contact will also still be barred, until three months after their last dose. The FDA noted that the medications, known as PrEP, can delay the detection of the virus in screening tests.

The Human Rights campaign, an LGBTQ+ advocacy group, called Thursday's announcement "a real step forward" in a statement. It added that more "can and must be done so that people taking

PrEP can donate as well."

The FDA sets requirements and procedures for U.S. blood banks. All potential donors answer questions about their sexual history, injectable drug use and any recent tattoos or piercings, among other factors that can contribute to the spread of blood-borne infections. Donated blood is then tested for HIV, hepatitis C, syphilis and other infectious diseases.

In 2015, the FDA dropped the lifetime ban on donations from men who have sex with men and replaced it with a one-year abstinence requirement.

Then in 2020, the agency shortened the abstinence period to three months, after donations plummeted during the COVID-19 pandemic. □



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This combination of images shows promotional art for the films “Evil Dead Rise,” “Barbarian,” and “Infinity Pool.”

By **KRYSTA FAURIA**
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — If you're stumped for how to spend this Mother's Day, consider relishing a good scare. Since the genre's inception, horror movies have tapped into the psychological trauma and terror that can only come from a mother, and a number of recent films are embracing that time-honored tradition.

Take, for example, Brandon Cronenberg's “Infinity Pool,” which became one of the buzziest films to come out of this year's Sundance Film Festival.

It's no surprise it was replete with disturbing moments. The director, after all, has surely learned a thing or two from his filmmaker dad and giant of the genre, David Cronenberg.

In one talked-about scene, Gabi (Mia Goth) exposes her bare chest to James

(Alexander Skarsgård) in an invitation to breastfeed, revealing a complicated tension between his actual mother and his understanding of Gabi as his new one. While the genre has often been dismissed as low-brow, Adam Lowenstein, a film and media studies professor at the University of Pittsburgh who specializes in horror, said it is well-suited for grappling with these kinds of deep-seated, psychological issues.

“Horror is, at its core, a very primal genre,” he said. “It makes absolute sense that things like family, sex, death would all be things that the horror film is constantly mining because those are primal fascinations and experiences.”

Perhaps the seminal example of mommy issues in a horror film is Alfred Hitchcock's “Psycho” (1960).

In it, the infamous Norman Bates of the Bates Motel

develops a split personality after killing his controlling mom and her lover out of jealousy.

His grief and guilt cause him to keep her corpse stashed away, and assume her personality when he commits violence against women he becomes attracted to. Part of what makes the maternal bond such a fertile one for exploring psychological trauma, Lowenstein said, is that it is so universal and freighted.

“We all have real mothers, just the way we have real constructs about motherhood that we subscribe to. And these things are very hard to separate,” he said. The gap between expectation and reality becomes fruitful territory for a good scare.

Zach Cregger's “Barbarian” (2022) also turns breastfeeding into a spectacle, not from an inviting yet depraved sexual part-

From ‘Psycho’ to a new crop of horror movies, the genre has some mommy issues

ner as in “Infinity Pool,” but from a monstrous maternal creature who forces her victims to feast.

Other films let the dynamic between mother and child carry the drama. “Evil Dead Rise,” now available to rent on streaming services, plays with the fear-inducing extreme of a mom being possessed by a demon.

“I think it's very terrifying to imagine somebody so familiar to you in your world becoming a subversion of that, and becoming something really dangerous and evil,” said director Lee Cronin. “It just lent itself to this exploration of maternal fears and what it might mean if your mother was to turn on you.”

In Ari Aster's new “Beau Is Afraid,” the central theme is the fear and pain that can come from the mother-child bond. The movie — about a man trying to get to his mom's house — is as much a surrealist epic as it is a horror movie.

And while Aster's third movie is admittedly less scary than his “Midsommar” or “Hereditary,” another film that exploits the terrors of family dynamics and mother-induced trauma, it is safe to conclude by the end that Beau's fear of his

guilt-inducing mother was warranted.

“When I left ‘Beau Is Afraid,’ I heard a teenage woman ahead of me walking out of the theater saying to her friends, ‘That just made me want to call my mom and say I'm sorry for everything,’” Lowenstein recounted. “We think horror and we think fear and dread and haunting, but we don't necessarily think guilt, shame, humiliation. And Ari Aster clearly understands the connection between these things.”

It is not insignificant that almost all of these scary movies about protagonists' relationships with their mothers are directed by men.

But Lowenstein maintains that the genre's mommy issues began with a woman, and long before film: Mary Shelley's classic 1818 horror novel, “Frankenstein,” is often considered to be the inception of modern horror. “Her story is about a man who wants to be God, but he also wants to be a mother.

Really, he wants to create life without the intervention of women,” he said. “What Mary Shelley shows us is what a bad idea this really is, and how male hubris really does monstrous things with motherhood.” □

Tucker Carlson says he's coming back with show on Twitter

By **DAVID BAUDER**
AP Media Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Fired Fox news host Tucker Carlson said Tuesday that he will be putting out a “new version” of his program on Twitter.

Carlson made his announcement in a three-minute video posted on the social media site, as part of a denunciation of media. He called Twitter that last big remaining platform that allows free speech.

“We'll be bringing a new version of the show we've been doing for the last six and a half years to Twitter,” he said. “We'll bring some other things, too, which we'll tell you about. But for now we're just grateful to be here.”

He offered no other details, and a mes-

sage to his lawyer, Bryan Freedman, was not immediately returned.

It's unclear what these plans mean for his remaining contract with Fox; typically television companies include a no-compete clause when someone leaves the air. A Fox spokeswoman didn't immediately return a call for comment.

Axios reported on Tuesday that Carlson's lawyers sent a letter to Fox accusing the network of fraud and breach of contract.

Fox announced on April 24 that it was cutting ties with Carlson, its most popular prime-time anchor.

The network offered no explanation for the move, and Fox's ratings in his old time slot have sharply fallen. □



Tucker Carlson, host of “Tucker Carlson Tonight,” poses for photos in a Fox News Channel studio on March 2, 2017, in New York.

Associated Press

Kentucky Derby winner Mage is on track to run in the Preakness, pursue Triple Crown

By **STEPHEN WHYNO**
AP Sports Writer

Kentucky Derby winner Mage remains on track to run in the Preakness Stakes in Baltimore next week to continue a pursuit of horse racing's first Triple Crown since Justify in 2018, with a final decision expected Friday.

Ramiro Restrepo, part of the ownership group, said Thursday those in charge of deciding Mage's next race wanted to see one final workout before making that determination.

"Everything is just patience and temperance on our end," Restrepo said on a conference call with reporters. "The plan is that if on Friday he trains satisfactory like he's been training all week, then we would make the announcement that we would go to the Preakness."

Mage would be the first unquestioned Derby winner to go to the Preakness with a chance to win the Triple Crown since Justify five years ago. In 2019, Maximum Security was disqualified and Country House elevated to first with neither



Javier Castellano celebrates after riding Mage to win the 149th running of the Kentucky Derby horse race at Churchill Downs Saturday, May 6, 2023, in Louisville, Ky.

running in the Preakness; in 2020, the Belmont Stakes was run first because of the pandemic; in 2021, Medina Spirit failed a drug test after winning the Derby and was eventually DQed; and in 2022, the owner and trainer of long shot Rich Strike decided to skip the race.

While the two weeks between the Derby and

Preakness make for an unusually tight turnaround for top thoroughbreds in North America,

Restrepo downplayed that concern, citing trainer Gustavo Delgado's experience.

"He's won two (Venezuelan) Triple Crowns with similar timeframes, so as far as being prepared and being

able to know all the things that Mage needs to check off the list to be able to participate his best for the Preakness, we have that in play and we're quite comfortable with it," Restrepo said.

Logistical preparations are already underway to get Mage from Churchill Downs in Louisville, Kentucky, to

Pimlico Racecourse in Baltimore.

Restrepo said he and the other owners will make the best decision for the lightly raced colt who has so far made only four career starts.

"Every decision that is made on our end, Mage makes that decision for us," he said. "All indications are that Mage is feeling good, doing well on the race-track."

Mage won the Derby at odds of 15-1 after a tumultuous 10-day stretch at Churchill Downs during which seven horses died and five were scratched from the \$3 million race, leaving a field of 18 to run instead of the usual 20.

Forte, the morning line favorite, was scratched hours before by Kentucky Horse Racing Commission veterinarians who had concerns about a bruised right front foot. Barring an unexpected change by Maryland officials, Forte won't be able to run in the Preakness after Kentucky racing officials put him on a mandatory 14-day veterinary list earlier this week. □

Associated Press

Pedersen wins 6th stage of Giro, Leknessund stays in lead after calmer day

NAPLES, Italy (AP) — Mads Pedersen won the sixth stage of the Giro d'Italia on Thursday after a two-man breakaway was caught with the line in sight.

Andreas Leknessund kept hold of the pink jersey.

Pedersen beat Jonathan Milan and Pascal Ackermann in a bunch sprint at the end of the picturesque 162-kilometer (101-mile) route that started and finished in Naples.

It looked as though Alessandro De Marchi and Simon Clarke were going to contest the victory after they were in a breakaway that went early in the day, but they were swallowed up less than 300 meters from the end.

De Marchi shook his head and they embraced each other as they crossed the line.

"I'm very happy. That's what we came here for," Pedersen said. "It was difficult to catch the breakaway riders. We had to use all our teammates early."

There were two categorized climbs along the stage that went around Mount Vesuvius before going through Sorrento and along the Amalfi coast on a relatively calm day.

That would have come as a relief to the riders after miserable weather the previous day caused several crashes.

Pre-race favorite Remco Evenepoel was in a lot of

pain after being involved in two of those incidents but he appeared not to be too affected by that as he finished safely in the peloton on Thursday to remain 28 seconds behind Leknessund.

Aurélien Paret-Peintre was third overall, 30 seconds behind Leknessund.

The color of the Giro is pink but the streets in and around Naples were festooned with blue in honor of the city's soccer team after Napoli ended its 33-year wait for the Serie A title last week.

Despite the crashes the previous day, the only rider not to start was Clément Russo after testing positive for coronavirus.

The Giro hits the high mountains on Friday's seventh stage with the edition's first finish above 2,000 meters. The 218-kilometer (135-

mile) route from Capua ends in a daunting top-category climb on the Gran Sasso d'Italia to Campo Imperatore. □



Norway's Andreas Leknessund wears the pink jersey of the race overall leader during the sixth stage of the Giro d'Italia, tour of Italy cycling race, from Naples to Naples, Italy, Thursday, May 11, 2023.

Associated Press

Mets lose 5 series in a row for 1st time in a decade, shut out by Reds

CINCINNATI (AP) — The New York Mets committed to paying nearly half a billion dollars in player contracts this offseason in their pursuit of a World Series title.

The problem is it's not paying off.

For the first time since 2012, the Mets have dropped five series in a row. The Cincinnati Reds erupted Thursday for four first inning runs against Kodai Senga and beat New York 5-0, taking the series 2-1. Spencer Steer added an insurance solo shot in the fifth inning. Jonathan India, Jake Fraley and Tyler Stephenson each had two hits for the Reds (16-21), who sent the Mets (18-20) to their fourth loss in five games and 13th in the last 17.

With the Mets scoring two runs in their last 19 innings, manager Buck Showalter was asked if there's reason for concern.

"Yes," he said. "It falls on me. Obviously, when you don't score runs, it's impossible to win. If we could have put zeroes up, we'd still be playing."

On a Cincinnati bullpen day, Derek Law pitched into the second inning, followed by Ben Lively, Lucas Sims and Kevin Herget, who logged his first career save. Lively (1-0), promoted from Triple-A Louisville on Tuesday, allowed four hits with a strikeout over three innings to earn his first win since his rookie season in 2017.



New York Mets' Francisco Alvarez, right, is tagged out at home plate by Cincinnati Reds catcher Curt Casali in the seventh inning of a baseball game in Cincinnati, Thursday, May 11, 2023.

Associated Press

"I'm so fired up," Lively said. "My mom and my sister were here. I was so jacked up. I'm pretty riled up right now. It is surreal. I feel the circle is complete now."

"They told me to be ready for the second inning. I had no idea how long I'd go. I could have gone longer. Hell, yeah, I was fired up. I felt good. That's just me. That's how I am. It was an awesome win today."

The group didn't allow an extra-base hit until Francisco Alvarez's one-out double off Herget in the seventh. Right fielder Henry Ramos threw Alvarez out at the plate trying to score on Francisco Lindor's single to preserve the shutout.

After giving up two hits over six scoreless innings in his previous start against Colorado on May 5, Senga (4-2) threw 37 pitches while allowing five hits in Cincinnati's four-run first inning, including four hits and a walk with two outs that produced all four runs. Kevin Newman capped the rally with a bases-loaded, two-run single. The Reds sent nine batters to the plate in the inning.

"It has been our identity, the next man up mentality," Newman said. "The overall big team contributions. A pressure that we bring is taking the extra bag when we can. That's big for us. Getting in scoring

position when normally you wouldn't puts us in a good position. The home runs are going to come."

Showalter admitted he was one more batter away from bringing in Tommy Hunter. "We had Tommy up early," Showalter said. "I hated to do that. There were only two balls that were hit hard. That's the way it goes when you're going through a tough stretch like this."

Senga regrouped to face the minimum nine batters over the next three innings before Steer's two-out drive in the fifth. The Reds reached Senga for eight hits and five runs with one walk and seven strikeouts.

"I think I was able to control

myself pretty well today," Senga said through an interpreter. "One thing I had in mind coming into this outing was pounding the strike zone, and I thought I did that pretty well. I threw it where they could hit it."

EIGHT BALL

India's leadoff double extended his hitting streak to eight games (11-for-26, .423), his second streak of eight games this season and the third by a Reds player. TJ Friedl also had an eight-game streak in April.

MAXIMUM EFFORT

Herget's three-inning save was Cincinnati's first since Sal Romano against the Cubs on Aug. 10, 2019.

TRAINER'S ROOM

Mets: Friday's starting pitcher at Washington remained to be determined, but manager Buck Showalter confirmed before Thursday's game that it wouldn't be RHP Max Scherzer, who was scratched from Tuesday's start with neck spasms. "He threw from 90 feet today," Showalter said. "He's improving each day." Reds: 1B Joey Votto (left shoulder and bicep surgery) is scheduled to go to Louisville to continue taking live batting practice ... RHP Fernando Cruz (right shoulder strain) is long tossing from 150 feet and will be with the team in Miami and Denver and is expected to make at least one rehab start before being activated, but no date has been determined. □



Milwaukee Bucks' Jrue Holiday (21) drives against Miami Heat's Caleb Martin during the second half of Game 2 of an NBA basketball first-round playoff series Wednesday, April 19, 2023, in Milwaukee.

Associated Press

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Milwaukee Bucks guard Jrue Holiday has been selected the NBA's teammate of the year for the second straight year and third time

in the last four seasons. The NBA announced on Thursday the voting results for the Twyman-Stokes Teammate of the Year Award, which recognizes

Bucks' Holiday selected as NBA teammate of year for 2nd consecutive season

the player deemed the best teammate based on selfless play, leadership and dedication to a team. Current players voted on the winner from a list of 12 finalists. The finalists were determined by a panel of league executives.

Brooklyn's Mikal Bridges finished second and Golden State's Stephen Curry was third in the voting. The other finalists, in order of finish, were New York's Derrick Rose, Miami's Udo-

nis Haslem, Portland's Damian Lillard, Sacramento's Harrison Barnes, Phoenix's Damion Lee, Cleveland's Darius Garland, Boston's Grant Williams, Memphis' Jaren Jackson Jr. and Denver's Aaron Gordon. Lillard won the award in 2021, the only time in the last four seasons it hasn't gone to Holiday. Holiday won the award as a member of the New Orleans Pelicans in 2020 before earning it again with the

Bucks the last two seasons. The award is named after Jack Twyman and Maurice Stokes, who were Cincinnati Royals teammates from 1955-58. Stokes suffered an injury during the 1957-58 season that led to him falling into a coma, becoming permanently paralyzed and being diagnosed with post-traumatic encephalopathy, a brain injury. Twyman became his legal guardian and advocate. □